

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/316,697

Examiner

Mike Qi

Applicant(s)

ZHANG, HONGYONG

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the response of Sep.21, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,33-36,54-58 and 91-95.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 9/21/05;
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 77-90 directed to non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 77-90 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 33-36, 54-58 and 91-95 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record neither discloses nor teaches a liquid crystal display device comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically, as the following:

a first plurality of conductive layers interposed between the first substrate and the sealing member, and the first plurality of conductive layers comprising a same material as the plurality of scanning lines; a second plurality of conductive layers comprising a same material as the signal lines; and an insulating film disposed between the scanning lines and the signal lines and between the first plurality of conductive layers and the second plurality of conductive layers; and the first plurality of conductive layers and the second plurality of conductive layers are arranged in turn so that the second plurality of conductive layers do not overlap the first plurality of conductive layers as shown in Figs.1 and 6 in which the first and the second conductive layers functions as dummy electrodes and are not the extension of the gate line and the data line [claims 1, 54 and 91].

The closest reference US 5,619,358 (Tanaka et al) discloses that first dummy electrodes and second dummy electrodes interposed between a substrate and a sealing member and insulated by a distance, but they are not insulated by an insulating film as claimed in this application. Non of the prior art of record discloses such first conductive layers and second conductive layers arranged as claimed in this application. The references such as Us 5,684,555 (Shiba et al) and US 5,200,847 (Mawatari et al) have

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gate lines and data lines with extensions that pass under the seal; however, the examiner does not believe that these extensions could be considered the first and second conductive layers in this application.

The references file in IDS do not disclose that the first and second plurality of conductive layers arrangement as claimed set forth above, and the reference US 5,995,189 in the IDS is a divisional of this application.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

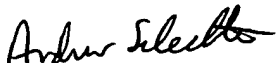
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Qi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2299. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 8:00 am-5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mike Qi
September 26, 2005


ANDREW SCHECHTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER